

Serial No. 09/977,330
Amendment dated April 25, 2005
In Reply of Office Action dated November 24, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1(currently amended). A method of making a new dental prosthetic from an existing dental prosthetic, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an existing dental prosthetic;
- b) providing a mold having a bottom half and a top half, the bottom half including a side wall, a closed bottom and an open top face for mating with the top half, the top half including a further side wall, a partially open bottom face for mating with the open top face of the bottom half, and a partially open top;
- c) partially filling the bottom half of the mold with a hydrocolloid molding material;
- d) placing a first portion of the existing dental prosthetic denture in the hydrocolloid molding material disposed in the bottom half;

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- e) placing the top half of the mold on the bottom half of the mold after the step of partially filling the bottom half of the mold with a hydrocolloid; and
- f) providing a dental stone; and
- g) covering a portion of the hydrocolloid material and a further portion of the existing dental prosthetic denture with the dental stone; and
- h) the step of covering a portion with the dental stone includes adding the dental stone through the partially open top of the top half and through the partially open bottom face of the top half, after the step of partially filling the bottom half of the mold with a hydrocolloid, and adding the dental stone after the step of placing a first portion of the existing dental prosthetic in the hydrocolloid molding material partially filling the bottom half of the mold.

2(cancelled).

3(previously presented). A method as in claim 1, wherein:

- a) the hydrocolloid material includes an alginate.

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4(cancelled).

5(original). A method as in claim 1, wherein:

a) the first portion of the existing dental prosthetic includes a tooth.

6(original). A method as in claim 1, wherein:

a) the second portion of the existing dental prosthetic includes a portion of a jaw side of a dental prosthetic.

7(original). A method as in claim 1, wherein:

a) a locking device is provided for attaching the top half of the mold to the bottom half.

8(original). A method as in claim 7, wherein:

a) a locking device detachably attaches the top half to the bottom half.

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9(original). A method as in claim 7, wherein:

a) the locking device permanently attaches the top half to the bottom half.

10(previously presented). A method as in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

a) allowing the hydrocolloid material and the dental stone to harden;

b) removing the dental prosthetic from the hydrocolloid material and the dental stone;

c) using the hardened hydrocolloid material and the dental stone to form a negative of the existing dental prosthetic; and

d) using the negative of the existing dental prosthetic to make a positive of a new dental prosthetic.

11(original). A method as in claim 10, further comprising the step of:

a) making corrections to the existing dental prosthetic prior to making the negative.

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12-21 (cancelled).

22 (currently amended). A method of making a new dental prosthetic from an existing dental prosthetic, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an existing dental prosthetic;
- b) providing a mold having a bottom half and a top .. half, the bottom half including a tapered side wall, a closed bottom and an open top face for mating with the top half, the top half including a further tapered side wall, a partially open bottom face for mating with the open top face of the bottom half, and a partially open top;
- c) partially filling the bottom half of the mold with a hydrocolloid;
- d) placing a first portion of the existing dental prosthetic denture in the hydrocolloid disposed in the bottom half;
- e) placing the top half of the mold on the bottom half of the mold; and
- f) providing a dental stone; and

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g) covering a portion of the hydrocolloid and a further portion of the existing dental prosthetic denture with the dental stone after the step of partially filing the bottom half of the mold with a hydrocolloid and after the step of placing a first portion of the existing dental prosthetic in the hydrocolloid.

23 (previously presented). A method as in claim 22, wherein:

a) the step of providing the dental stone includes adding the dental stone through the partially open top and through the partially open bottom face of the top half.

24 (previously presented). A method as in claim 22, wherein:

a) the hydrocolloid includes an alginate.

25 (cancelled).

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26 (previously presented). A method as in claim 22,

wherein:

a) the first portion of the existing dental
prosthetic includes a tooth.

27 (previously presented). A method as in claim 22,

wherein:

a) the second portion of the existing dental
prosthetic includes a portion of a jaw side of a dental
prosthetic.

28 (previously presented). A method as in claim 22,

wherein:

a) a locking device is provided for attaching the
top half of the mold to the bottom half.

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29(previously presented). A method as in claim 22,
wherein:

a) a locking device detachably attaches the top half
to the bottom half.

30(previously presented). A method as in claim 22,
further comprising the steps of:

a) allowing the hydrocolloid and the dental stone to
harden;

b) removing the dental prosthetic from the hardened
hydrocolloid and dental stone;

c) using the hardened hydrocolloid and the dental
stone to form a negative of the existing dental prosthetic; and

d) using the negative of the existing dental
prosthetic to make a positive of a new dental prosthetic.

31(previously presented). A method as in claim 22,
further comprising the step of:

a) making corrections to the existing dental
prosthetic prior to making the negative.

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32 (new). A method as in claim 22, wherein:

- a) the existing dental prosthetic includes a denture.